## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 PM-04 /027 W

-----290217Z 011679 /62

R 281750Z MAR 77 FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1131 INFO USIA WASHDC

UNCLAS MEXICO 03825

EO 11652:N/A TAGS: SOPN SUBJECT:AP WIREPHOTO CAPTION ALLEGING U.S. TROOPS IN RHODESIA

- 1. SUNDAY, MARCH 21, EDITIONS OF MEXICO CITY DAILIES EL SOL AND EL UNIVERSAL CARRIED ASSOCIATED PRESS WIREPHOTO PICTURING ALLEGED "FORMER U.S. MARINE DRILL INSTRUCTOR...ONE OF THE ESTIMATED 150 U.S. GI'S A RHODESIAN RECRUITING OFFICER SAID ARE HELPING TO FIGHT BLACK NATIONALIST GUERRILLAS SEEKING TO OVERTHROW THE WHITE MINORITY GOVERNMENT." EXCELSIOR ALSO PUBLISHED PICTURE BUT SPECIFIED THAT THESE WERE EX-GI'S. EL SOL AND EL UNIVERSAL PROVIDED DIFFERENT SPANISH TRANSLATION OF AP CUTLINE TRANSMITTED IN ENGLISH, BUT IMPLICATION IN BOTH WAS THAT U.S. TROOPS ARE FIGHTING IN RHODESIA. IF AP HAD REPEATED WORD "FORMER" OR USED "EX" BEFORE "U.S. GI'S" MISINTERPRETATION MIGHT HAVE BEEN AVOIDED.
- 2. WHILE WE ARE TRYING TO SET RECORD STRAIGHT HERE, WE ARE CONCERNED THAT SAME PHOTO AND CAPTION MIGHT HAVE BEEN REPEATED WORLDWIDE AND LEAD TO WIDE UNCLASSIFIED

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MISCONCEPTION THAT U.S. TROOPS FIGHTING OR TRAINING TROOPS IN RHODESIA. FINE LINE BETWEEN FORMER GI'S AND THOSE STILL ON ACTIVE DUTY HAS BEEN BLURRED BY THIS CAPTION.

3. DEPARTMENT MIGHT WISH TO CALL THIS TO ATTENTION OF AP AND REQUEST A CORRECTION. THOMPSON

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## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am Channel Indicators: n/a

**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, TROOP DEPLOYMENT

Control Number: n/a

Copy: SINGLE Sent Date: 28-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am Decaption Note:

Disposition Action: n/a Disposition Approved on Date: Disposition Case Number: n/a Disposition Comment:

Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am Disposition Event:

Disposition Event:
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Subject: AP WIREPHOTO CAPTION ALLEGING U.S. TROOPS IN RHODESIA

TAGS: SOPN, MASS, RH, US

To: STATE Type: TE

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